

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-10 and 12-32 are currently pending. Claims 1, 6-9, 14, 22, 25, and 31 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Support for the amendments to the claims may be found in the application as originally filed at pages 15 and 16.

Claims 6-9, 14, 28, and 31 are objected to for various informalities in the claim language. Claims 6-9, 14, 28, and 31 have been amended to overcome these objections.

Claims 1-4, 8-9, 25, 27-28, and 31-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kara et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,249,777 B1, in view of Goldberg et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,848,401.

Claims 5, 10, 12-13, 15-16, 18-19, 21-24, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kara et al. in view of Goldberg et al. in further view of Meyer et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,915,271 B1.

Claims 6 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kara et al. in view of Goldberg et al. in further view of Kramer et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,163,772.

Claims 7 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kara et al. in view of Goldberg et al. in further view of Gravell et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,098,058.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kara et al. in view of Goldberg et al. in further view of Meyer et al. in further view of Kramer et al.

Claims 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kara et al. in view of Goldberg et al. in further view of Meyer et al., in further view of Hind et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,978,367 B1.

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kara et al. in view of Goldberg et al. in further view of Meyer et al. in further view of Kara 2, U.S. Patent No. 6,233,568 B1.

Claim 1 has been amended to overcome the rejection over Kara in view of Goldberg. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to recite, "receiving said print program from said website server over the Internet."

The Examiner asserts at page 7 of the Office Action that Kara discusses downloading a print program from the Internet. Applicants respectfully disagree with this assertion. At column 4, lines 7-37, Kara describes the use of a “demand program.” The demand program is configured to “independently print a destination address and return address in addition to the postage indicia to be printed on an item of mail,” see Kara at column 4, lines 47-49. The demand program may be stored on a computer that is stored in a business or in a person home, see Kara at column 4, lines 7-9. The demand program may request a user input for purchasing postage, and may in turn demand the postage from a remote postage metering device. See Kara at column 6, lines 21, and 62-64. The computer (e.g., computer 20 in FIG. 1A) having the demand program may be coupled to another computer (e.g., computer 10 in FIG. 1A) via a PSN (e.g., PSN 103), which may be configured for Internet communication between the two computers, see Kara at column 8, lines 24-52. Nowhere does Kara ever describe that computer 10 or any other computer is configured to download the demand program to computer 20. Further, Kara fails entirely to even describe how the demand program is even placed in the memory of computer 20. Because Kara fails entirely to describe how the demand program is placed in computer 20, Kara fails entirely to show or suggest downloading the demand program over the internet to computer 20.

Goldberg fails entirely to make up for the deficiencies of Kara. Goldberg discusses a handheld portable postage printing meter configured to use partially printed labels. The postage indicia is added to the partially printed label by the meter if a user directs the meter to print a stamp. See the abstract of Goldberg among numerous other places. Nowhere does Goldberg discuss the downloading of a print program from the Internet to the meter. Therefore, Goldberg fails entirely to make up for the deficiencies of Kara. Therefore, Kara and Goldberg fail to render claim 1 obvious.

Independent claim 10 recites similar limitations to those limitation of claim 1 distinguished from Kara and Goldberg above. Independent claims 22 and 25 have been amended to recite similar limitations to those limitation of claim 1 distinguished from Kara and Goldberg above. Therefore, for at least the same reasons that Kara and Goldberg fail to render claim 1 obvious, Kara and Goldberg similarly fails to render each of claim 10, 22, and 25 obvious.

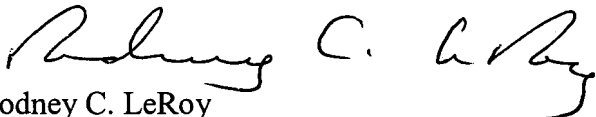
Further regarding claim 10, Meyer fails to make up for the deficiencies of Kara and Goldberg. Meyer describes a system for distributing promotional incentives electronically to consumers. See the abstract of Meyer. Nowhere does Meyer discuss the downloading of a print program from the Internet to a meter. Therefore, Meyer fails entirely to make up for the deficiencies of Kara and Goldberg. Therefore, Kara, Goldberg, and Meyer fail to render claim 10 obvious.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,


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